

VERY BEST WOOL CROP FOR VERY MANY YEARS

BUYING AT GOOD PRICES EXPECTED WITHIN WEEK.

Lester Sewell of Idaho, With Flocks Ranging Throughout Eastern Utah, Sells the First Clip Up North At Forty-Eight Cents—Dr. S. W. McClure Most Optimistic.

The best wool crop ever sown in Utah and the wool-growing states of the entire West will be that of the present season, according to Dr. S. W. McClure, secretary of the National Woolgrowers' association. Dr. McClure says the crop will not be so large as it was last season, but the quality of the wool is better than it ever has been before. Buyers for the forthcoming clip from Boston, Mass., and other Eastern wool centers are already beginning to come into Utah to feel out the growers as to prices for this year's clip. It is expected that active buying will begin within short time, possibly by the end of this week. No prices have yet been fixed on local clips, but it is estimated by Dr. McClure these will range from forty to fifty-five cents. In discussing the wool situation last Saturday Secretary McClure had this to say:

"In February the government fixed the price of all wools if then owned, which consisted of nine-tenths of the wool in the United States, at the same price as Great Britain had fixed her wools. It will be understood that Great Britain took over the entire wool clip of Australia and New Zealand for the duration of the war and one year thereafter, so today Great Britain holds the bulk of the world's wool on which she has fixed the same price as that at which our government is selling its supply. Great Britain decided to sell its wool at public auction and the first of the series of auction sales was held in London, April 2d. At that sale her half-wool and fine merino wools sold at about 10 per cent above the minimum price the government had fixed. Coarse wools and quartermills sold at 5 per cent above the maximum. At the last auction in Boston of domestic wool the bidding was very active and all wools sold at prices above the government minimum."

In the Western States little shearing has been done except in Washington and Arizona. In Arizona it has been more than half completed and practically all the wool short has been sold at prices ranging from sixty to sixty-three cents per pound. This price, of course, is for wool delivered in Boston, so the grower pays the commission and freight, amounting to about 5.5 cents per pound. The Arizona wools netted the growers from fifty-five to fifty-eight cents per pound. All Arizona wool was sold on receipt of hundred pound samples sent to Boston. In other Western States only one sale has been made. It is reported that J. G. Taylor of Nevada has contracted his wool to the Union Wool company of Boston at forty cents. It is reported to be a clip of heavy, fine wool.

Representatives of Boston wool concerns came into the West during the past week and the buyers are feeling around to see where the growers stand on prices. I will not be surprised to see buying commence within the next few days. The forthcoming clip will be the best ever sown in the West. It will not be as large as last year, for we have not as many sheep as we had before. The wool, however, is well grown, strong in fiber and light in shrinkage and should bring good prices. I estimate that the prices will range from forty to fifty-five cents."

ALL SHEEP COMING TO UTAH MUST BE DIPPED

All sheep coming into Utah on or after July 15th for grazing must be dipped for the eradication of ticks between that date and September 30th, under an order just issued by the state live stock board. Sheep passing through the state are not affected by the order. Flockmasters desiring to dip before July 15th may do so by obtaining a permit from the state live stock inspector, through the state sheep inspector of his district.

All sheep that are brought into Utah on or after July 15th will be quarantined in a quarantine district, comprising a strip five miles in width bordering all boundary lines of Utah, or within two miles of the point where they have been shorn in cars, until they have been dipped under the supervision of a state and federal inspector.

Public buck herds must not be dip-sauded until the rams have been inspected and dipped, the order sets forth.

First Sale Reported.

Report of the first sale of this season's clip of wool in the intermountain section was received last Saturday by Secretary McClure of the national association. The sale was made by Lester C. Sewell of Payette, Idaho, of 150,000 pounds at forty-eight cents. This sale is of importance to intermountain woolgrowers because it is an

indication of the prices that may be expected to be offered in this section, it is said. Sewell is well known at Price and elsewhere throughout Eastern Utah, where he runs a large number of sheep. He made the Tavener at Price his headquarters for a considerable time last fall and winter, when he bought and sold several herds hereabouts.

Big Lamb Orders.

CHICAGO, Apr. 5.—The government is in the market for 3,730,000 pounds of lamb, it was learned, today at the stockyards, the first time since the government began making large wartime purchases that it has sought any very considerable quantity of lamb or mutton. At present lamb is selling at virtually the same high prices that beef and pork are bringing. The order would keep the largest killing establishment at the stockyards busy for fifteen days, according to an official of the National Woolgrowers' association, who said the government had now recognized the food value of lamb and mutton.

Wool Stocks On Hand.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Apr. 5.—The war department announced today that the stocks of wool in the hands of the government wool distributor on March 29, 1918, totaled 263,024,000 pounds. Not included in this total were 300,000 bales of Australasian wool bought last fall from the British government. The stock in hand was divided in the various grades. Greasy combed wools, 98,056,000 pounds; tops, 2,322,000; greasy carding wools, 100,508,000; scoured wool, 28,550,000; greasy mohair, 987,000; carpet wool, 855,000 pounds; Island wool, 23,923,000.

WITH THE LIVE STOCKMEN OF THIS SECTION OF UTAH

Shearing began at Antelope corrals last Tuesday. Ed Christensen is in charge. Shearers will receive fifteen cents per head and pay \$1.75 a day for board.

Cattle in the vicinity of Myton are dying of blackleg. Six in the Beaver bunch were recently lost the day before he was to make delivery to the purchaser.

It is estimated that Ashley Valley has shipped to Salt Lake City in the past six months five hundred fat hogs. The shipment from the entire Uintah Basin during the year 1918 was doubtless \$50,000 worth.

C. A. Larson of Redcap has a February cow which at fourteen months old yielded twenty-two pounds of wool, ten months growth. This year she will shear thirty pounds. Larson has one ewe, three years old, which brought him last year \$31.50 in wool and lambs.

The government sold at public auction surplus army horses and mules up to March 1st, last, to the value of \$11,414,997. In all 96,548 animals. Sales were held at thirty-six camps, cantonments and stations. The average price was a hundred and eighteen dollars. Animals sold were cavalry and riding horses and heavy artillery horses, wheel and lead mules, pack and riding mules.

Utah has the only woman trapper and huntress in the country that is in the employ of any state. The state live stock commission last Monday appointed Mrs. William Ritter, whose home is near Lehi, as trapper and hunter for the board. Her husband performs the same duties for the government. Mrs. Ritter is regarded as an expert nimrod, her work exceeding as practically all the male hunters and trappers.

Dr. J. W. Hendricks of Richmond and Dr. L. H. Philpot of Provo were appointed last Monday as veterinary inspectors by the state live stock board. Francis Nielsen of Blanding was named sheep inspector, and the inspectors who served last year for this work were all reappointed. The other veterinary inspectors were also appointed for another twelve months, the new appointments being additions to the force.

Because he had no other place to winter his extra cattle J. E. Cervy last fall turned them out on Dutchman Bottoms, seven miles above Myton, on a large acreage of growth said to be wild cane. At any rate it is a heavy, wide-bladed grass. He hoped that they would come out this spring alive, at least, though emaciated. Imagine his surprise when he found that they not only enjoyed eating that stuff, but that they at once began to grow fat. He immediately negotiated a lease on two hundred acres for five years and is now feeding it.

American dairy cattle are to be sent to devastated districts of France, where they will do their "bit" toward restoring the health of the children of those regions. More than a hundred head of purebred cattle, recently purchased by the French high commission and selected from the best herds by experts of the United States department of agriculture, shortly will leave New York for Havre on a special equipped transport. There is said to be an urgent demand for milk from the warstricken areas.

Idaho sheepmen are urged to dispose of their wool clips by R. F. Bicknell, former food administrator of that state and a big producer of wool.

According to Bicknell, present market conditions are such that it would be good business for the sheepmen to sell their clips at the prices now offered, which are higher than the present market conditions in the East justify and above the basis of the government's wool prices. Idaho

(Continued on page eight.)

EMERY COUNTY HEIFERS BRING THE HIGHEST FIGURE

RED CROSS STUFF GOES AT VERY GOOD PRICES.

John W. Thornley of Kayesville Purchases Forty Head From the County Over South At Forty-One Dollars Each—Market Quotations and Live Stock News In General.

Eighty-four calves, sold at the stock show at Salt Lake City last Friday for the benefit of Utah chapter of the American Red Cross, brought \$3037. Forty-four head from Tooele, mixed steers and heifers, were auctioned to John May of Plain City at \$31.75 each. Forty head from Emery county, all of them heifers, were purchased by John Thorley of Kayesville at forty-one dollars each.

There was an effort made to bid the stock up simply because proceeds of the sales were to go to charity. The cool business eye and the stockman's hardheaded estimate of merit were present and tempered the bids of intending purchasers. Notwithstanding these factors, however, the prices obtained were well up to desired figures and the value to buyers was declared to be such as would characterize a purely business transaction.

The calves were sold in two lots for the reason that they came from two counties, the national pride of each finding expression in a desire to see which county would achieve the better price. The bunch from Emery county brought higher figure, which was \$9.25 for each animal more than the price obtained for the Tooele county lot.

IDAHo FARMERS OFFERING BETTER WAGES FOR HELP

Utah farmers are going to be "up against it" for help unless they raise the wages offered to farm hands. For while Utah rural districts may be attractive, there isn't a difference of thirty dollars a month or so in scenery between local districts and those of Idaho, it has been pointed out. The great difference in the wage scale was discovered at the office of the commission for the employment of soldiers and sailors when letters were received from Utah farmers offering employment to returned soldiers at forty dollars a month.

These farmers cannot expect to compete for help with those of Idaho, it was declared, "when the northern state is offering sixty, seventy, seventy-five and eighty dollars per week." The men naturally will select the more prosperous jobs, with transportation paid to the place where the work was secured, rather than consider the almost impossible offers of the Utah farmers. Thus the Utah farmers will be left at the hands of less efficient help."

Every Monday brings its long line of applicants for work at the bureau and this last Monday the crowd of Idaho colored men was larger than usual. By noon a list of applicants including two hundred names had been recorded, with few jobs worth the offer available, aside from those in Idaho. Many of the men can not leave Salt Lake City, however, because of having families there, and some of these are in desperate need of work. Those able to leave town are more fortunate.

HIGHER PRICES TALKED FOR UTAH POTATO CROP

Buyers are now willing to contract for the coming crop of potatoes at \$1.70 per hundred pounds in the statement by W. H. Olin, industrial agent of the Denver and Rio Grande, who was in Salt Lake City a few days ago attending the fat stock show. Olin's headquarters are in Denver, Colo. He travels over the Intermountain States investigating agricultural conditions, and is at present especially interested in potato production. It is his belief that prices are going to be high and that farmers will do well to raise a large crop of the tubers. A bumper crop in both fruit and vegetables for Provo and vicinity is predicted by Olin, who has just completed an inspection in that territory.

EXPERIMENT WATCHED.

Benjamin W. Johnson, agent of the federal board for vocational education and representing the industrial training portion of that board's work throughout several Western States, has been a recent visitor in Salt Lake City, and says that the federal education officials, as well as officials of many states, are watching with interest the experiment in vocational education just launched in Utah with the aid of the legislative appropriation of \$100,000. Mrs. Anna Burdick, representing the work of the same board in home economics, accompanied Johnson on his recent trip to Utah.

NAMES WANTED.

Names of all United States marines who lost their lives in the war are desired by the Salt Lake City recruiting station, so that they may be made of record. It is requested that relatives or friends who were acquainted with deceased marines communicate with the Utah office, 152 South Main street, Salt Lake City.

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